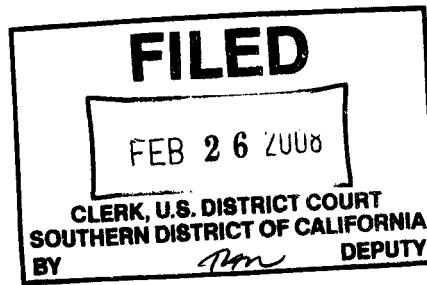


LP  
AUSA



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Alma Andrea SANCHEZ

Defendant.

Magistrate Case No.:

**08 MJ 8177**

COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF

21 U.S.C. § 952 and 960

Importation of a Controlled Substance  
(Felony)

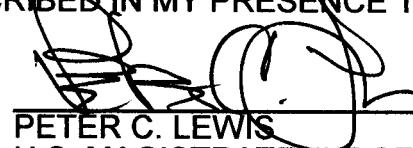
The undersigned complainant being duly sworn states:

That on or about February 24, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendant Alma Andrea SANCHEZ did knowingly and intentionally import approximately 54.10 kilograms (119.02 pounds) of marijuana, a Schedule I Controlled Substance, into the United States from a place outside thereof, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952 and 960.

The complainant states that this complaint is based on the attached Statement of Facts incorporated herein by reference.

  
Rudy Garcia, Special Agent  
U.S. Immigration and  
Customs Enforcement

SWORN TO BEFORE ME AND SUBSCRIBED IN MY PRESENCE THIS 26th  
DAY OF February 2008.

  
PETER C. LEWIS  
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
2 v.  
3 Alma Andrea SANCHEZ

4 STATEMENT OF FACTS  
5

6 This statement of facts is based on the reports, documents, and notes furnished  
7 to US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agent Rudy Garcia.  
8

9 On February 24, 2008, at approximately 2230 hours, Alma Andrea SANCHEZ  
10 attempted to enter the United States from the Republic of Mexico at the Calexico, CA  
11 West Port of Entry. SANCHEZ was the driver, registered owner and sole occupant of a  
12 1999 Chevrolet Blazer with California license plate number 6AZX987.  
13

14 SANCHEZ identified herself to Customs and Border Protection Officer (CBPO)  
15 Oceguera, and stated she was a United States citizen. CBPO Oceguera questioned  
16 SANCHEZ regarding the vehicle and she stated she had owned the vehicle for about  
17 four months. SANCHEZ gave a negative declaration and stated she was returning to  
18 Brawley after visiting some friends in Mexicali. CBPO Oceguera noted that SANCHEZ  
19 seemed over-friendly and had problems concentrating when replying to his questions.  
20 CBPO Oceguera referred SANCHEZ to vehicle secondary for further inspection.  
21

22 In vehicle secondary, CBPO Lepe received a negative declaration from  
23 SANCHEZ. SANCHEZ was asked the purpose of her trip to Mexico and stated to CBPO  
24 Lepe, that she was visiting friends. SANCHEZ also stated that she bought the vehicle  
25 four months ago and that she was unemployed. CBPO Lepe requested a canine  
26 screening of the vehicle. Canine Enforcement Officer Taylor used his human/narcotic  
27 detection dog to screen the vehicle. The canine alerted to the rear bumper area of the  
28 vehicle.  
29

30 A subsequent inspection of the vehicle revealed 42 packages concealed inside a  
31 compartment within the gas tank, within the door panels, inside the spare tire and within  
32 the dashboard. One of the packages was probed and it field-tested positive for  
33 marijuana. The 42 packages had a combined net weight of approximately 54.10  
34 kilograms (119.02 pounds) of marijuana. SANCHEZ was placed under arrest and  
35 advised of her Miranda Rights, which she acknowledged.